

ARTICLES TO BE ENQVIRED OF BY THE CHVRCH-

wardens in the Visitation of the Right

Worshipfull, Master ROBERT

JOHNSON, Batchelor in Diuinitie,

and Arch-deacon of *Leicester*, In
the yeare of our Lord

God. 1622.



LONDON,
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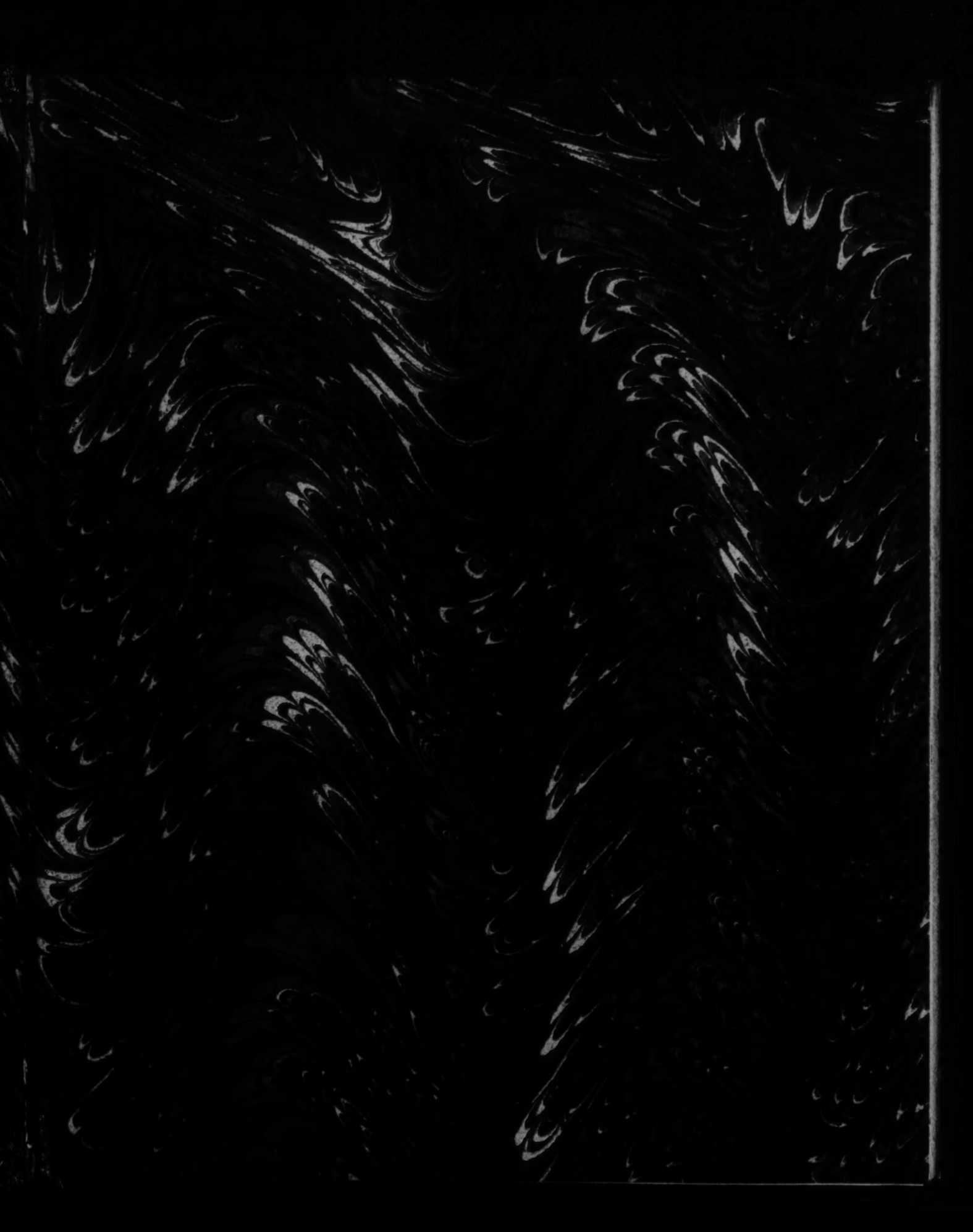
1622.

Bibliography



THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE

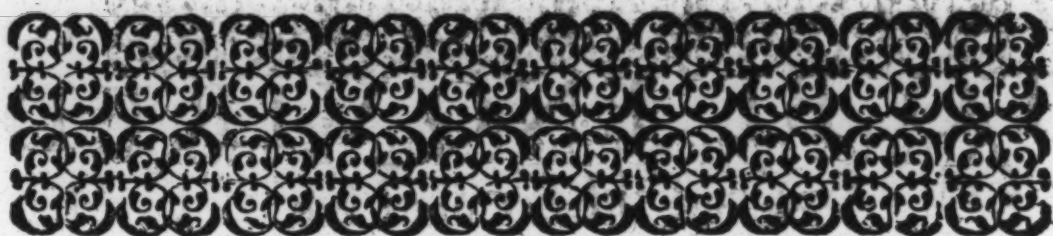
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Leicester, Building, L.

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The Tenour of the Oath ministred to all and euery
the Church-wardens and Sworne-men, chosen
for this present yeere.

YOU, and euery of you shall sweare by Almighty GOD,
that all affection set aside, you shall, vpon due considera-
tion of these Articles giuen you in charge, present vnto
Master *Robert Johnson* afore said, and his Officiall, euery such per-
son and persons, of, or within your Parish, as hath committed any
offence, or made any default mentioned in the same Articles, or
which are vehemently suspected, or otherwise defamed of any such
offence, fault, or default; wherein you and euery of you shall deale
vp rightly, as before God.. So helpe you God.

A short Admonition to the Church-wardens,
and Side-men.

YOU which shall bee sworne consider well of this Oath, and make
your Presentments in writing, vnder your hands, to euery Arti-
cle senerally in this Booke, bringing the same with you to Master
Archdeacon of Leicester his Visitation, there to bee deliuered vpon
your Oathes.

Articles





Articles concerning Church-men, as Parsons, Vicars, Curats, &c.



^{do you know y}
Nprimis, ~~Whether~~ your Parson, ^{or} Vicar, ~~or~~ A Preacher,

Curate be a Preacher of Gods word, a fauou-
rer and furtherer of true Religion now esta-
blished in this Realme of England by publike
authoritie, ~~or not~~ ^{lawfully Licensed} And if he be so, then whether he

^{he preached euery Sunday once, according to y^e 4th Canon}
Whether your Parson ~~or~~ Vicar haue In preaching
preached, ~~or caused to be preached~~ in your Church, ~~as many Ser-~~ monethly Ser-
mons as by the late Canons are required: and whether before

all Sermons, Lectures, & Homilies, bleth that forme of Prayer
which is set downe in the late Canon; and what be the names

of them, who haue preached for him; and whether he hath ~~admit-~~
ted any man to preach not hauing sufficient licence ^{first shewd to them; according to y^e 5th Canon}

Whether any person ~~or~~ persons, not being ordered at the Say Service
least for a Deacon, doe say Common Prayer openly in your vnordered
Church ~~or~~ Chappell:

Whether the Parson, Vicar, ~~or~~ Farmer of your Bene- Serue vnli-
fice, doe cause ~~or~~ suffer any Curate ~~or~~ Minister to serue your censed,
Church, before he be examined and admitted by the Ordinary, (can. 48)
~~or~~ his Deputie, in writing, and doe shew his Licence to the
Church wardens: and whether any Curate doe serue two
Cures at one time, ~~or~~ not? Two Cures.

Whether the Parson, Vicar, ~~or~~ Curate, doe euery Sun- Read Homilies
day, when there is no Sermon, read distinctly and plainly some
part of the Homilies, as is prescribed by the Canons: and whe- (ca. 49)
ther any Minister, not admitted by lawfull authoritie, doe ex-
pound any scripture, ~~or~~ matter of doctrine by the way of ephor-
tation, ~~or~~ otherwise, and thereby omit and leane off the reading
of the Homilies, contrary to the Canons:

Whether any Lectures, Conuenticles, ~~or~~ private mee- Private Con-
tings uenticles.

Articles concerning the Cleargie.

things be read or used within your parish, either publickly in the church, or priuately in the house, or in any other place whatsoever, by any person not sufficiently licensed therunto by the Ordinary, or whether any Ecclesiastical person do teach any doctrine of Innuuation, to withdraw the people from due obedience to the ordinances of the Church, set forth by publicke authoritie, or cause them to forbear participating in Prayer and Sacraments with our Church :

Catechise.

9 Whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, do every Sunday and Holyday, openly in the Church, call for, heare, and instruct all children, apprentices, and seruants of both sexes, that be of conuenient age within your parish, or at the least so many of them by course as the time will serue, & as he may wel heare and instruct, for one houre at the least, before or after Evening prayer, in the ten Commandements, the Articles of the beleefe, and the Lords prayer, and diligently examine and teach them the Catechisme, as is now allowed, and set forth in the Booke of Common prayer, or B. Nowels Catechisms, with the vnderstanding thereof: and faile not to present the offender heerein, together with such as are negligent commers to the said Catechisme :

10 Whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, or other Minister in your Church or chappell hath admitted to the holy Communion any open and notozious fornicator, adulterer, or euill liuer, by whom publicke offence is giuen, without due Penance first done, to the satisfaction of the congregation, inioyned him by his Ordinary: or any other malicious person, notoziously known and detected to be out of charity, or hath done any open wrong to his neighbour by word or deed, without due reconciliation first made to the party that is wronged :

Communion
with ordinary
bread.

11 Whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, doe administer the holy Communion with any other then common bread, appointed in the Booke of Common Prayer :

Ignorant persons
admitted
to the Com-
munion.

12 Whether your Parson, Vicar, Curate or Minister, hath admitted to the holy Communion any of his parish that cannot say the ten Commandements, the Articles of the Faith, the Lords Prayer in English, and whether he marry any persons which were single befoze, and cannot say the Catechisme, and whether

Articles concerning the Cleargie.

Whether hee vseth to examine his Parishioners at convenient times, before he administer the Sacrament vnto them, to the intent hee may know whether they can say by heart the same which is required in that behalfe, or no?

13 Whether your Preachers & Ministers be peace-makers, no brawlers, no sowers of discord: whether they be diligent in visiting the sicke, and comforting them, and doe moue them earnestly (specially when they make their Testaments) to consider the necessity of the poore, and to giue to their boze, or Church their charitable deuotion and almes?

Ministers disturbers.

14 Whether any doe preach, declare or speake any thing in derogation of the Booke of Common prayer, set forth by the Lawes of this Realme, dispraising the same, or any thing therein contained, or against the Preachers or Ministers of the Word and Sacraments?

Impugne the Booke of Common Prayer.

15 Whether your Parsons, Vicars, Curates, or Ministers, keepe well their Registers of all Weddings, Burials, and Christenings within your Parish, according the Order published lately?

Register Book

16 Whether they or any of them, keepe any suspected woman in their houses, or bee incontinent persons, giuen to drunkennesse, idlenesse, or to be haunters of Tauerne, Ale-houses, or suspected places, or be Hunters, Hawkers, Dicers, Carders, Table-players, Swearers, Liars, False dissemblers, Damns, or otherwise suspected of any notorious crime, or giue any such example of life, or vse disordered or baseely apparell, either in colours, gards, or light fashion: or doe not obserue the order prescribed in the seuentie fourth Canon, touching decency in Apparell?

Ministers offend in any thing.

17 Whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate haue married any person within the times prohibited, ~~contrary to the Canon~~ lately published in that behalfe?

Carefully asked in y^e Church or without Church

18 Whether any contention hath growen among the Preachers in these parts for any matter of Doctrine or ceremonies, and what, & who was the cause thereof: and whether any strife hath growen about pewes or seats in the Church, and between whom it was; and whether any new pewes haue been built in your Church, and by whom, and what authoritie?

Contention of Doctrine or Pewes.

Articles concerning the Cleargie.

Book Books.

17 Whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, do keepe a full and perfect note of all such as doe communicate in their severall Parishes :

Strangers communicate

18 Item, Whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, doe admit to the holy Communion any stranger, or any of the next, or any other neere parish, without licence of the Ordinary, & leave of his Minister that is so admitted, or any that do not reverently kneele upon their knees. Can. 23. or any notorious drunkard, adulterer, and publike offender, or any Churchwarden that haue omitted to present such offenders. Can. 109.

21 Item, Whether any of your parishioners hauing beene formerly admitted a Minister or Deacon, doth now relinquish his calling, vsing and carrying himselfe in the course of his life as a lay man. Can. 76.

Articles concerning the Church.

All books and ornaments of the Church.

Whether you haue in your parish Churches & Chappels all things necessary and requisite for Common prayer, and administration of the Sacraments, specially the Booke of Common prayer, published since his Maiesties time that now is, the English Bible in the largest volume, the two Tomes of Psalms, the Table of the Commandements, the Booke lately set forth by his Maiesty, the Booke called God and the King, the works of the right reuerend Father in God, Iohn Iewell, late Bishop of Sarisbury, a conuenient Pulpit well placed, a comely and decent table standing on a frame for the holy Communion, with a faire linnen cloth to lay vpon the same, & some couering of silke, buckram, or other such like, for the cleane keeping thereof, a faire and comely cup of siluer, & a coner of siluer for the same, which may serue also for the ministration of the Communion bread, a decent large Surplice with sleeves, a sure Coffer with two lockes and keyes, for the keeping of the Register booke, a strong Chest or box for the almes of the poore, with three lockes and keyes to the same, and all other things necessary in and to the premises :

Church and Church-yard in reparations.

2 Whether your Churches and chappels, with the Chancell therof, be wel and sufficiently repaired, and kept without abuse of any thing : and whether your Church-yards be well fenced, and

Articles concerning Schoolemasters.

and cleanly kept; and if any part be in decay, through whose default it is so?

3 Whether any man haue pulled downe or vncovered any self Church Church, Chancell, or Chappell, or any part of any of them, any goods. Church porch, Vestry, or Steeple, ~~Glasse house~~, or such like, or haue pulled downe the Wels, Chimes, Clocks, or haue felled or spoyled any wood or timber in any Church yard.

Articles concerning Schoolemasters.

Whether the Schoolemasters which teach within your Teach vñ parish, openly or priuately, in any Noble or Gentle, censed. mans house, or in any other place, be of good and sincere Religion, life & conuersation, and be diligent in teaching and bringing up of Youth: and whether they haue been examined, allowed, and licenced for Schoolemasters in such order, as is required by the Statutes and Canons in this behalfe?

2 Whether your Schoolemasters doe themselves come to the Church, and receiue the holy Communion as oft as they ought: and whether they bring with them so many of their Schollers, as are of knowledge, and age sufficient, to receiue the Lords Supper?

3 Whether the Schoolemasters, either priuate or publike, Teach Nowels do teach their Schollers W. Nowels Catechisme or some other Catechisme, publickely authorized, at the least once euery weeke?

4 Whether any of your Schoolemasters, be knowne or suspected to read to their Schollers in priuat any vnlawful books, Teach Popery, or Seditions. priuately to instruct them in their young yeeres, either in Popery, superstition, disobedience, or contempt to his Maestie and his lawes, either Ecclesiasticall or Temporall?

5 Item, whether any Schoolemasters doe teach and instruct children in the Booke called God and the King?

Articles concerning Executors, and Administrators.

Inprimis, What children vnder the age of 21. yeeres, or other persons haue died in your Parish since Michaelmas last, that had any goods, rights, chattels or legacies belonging vnto them at the time of their death, and whether administration be taken of the said goods, yea or no; and what be the names of such persons as are so deceased?

13

3 Item,

Articles concerning Ecclesiasticall Officers

2 Item, whether any in your Parish doe meddle with any goods of any person deceased befoze the will be pzooued, or administration be granted by the Ordinary?

3 Item, whether any person in your parish haue administered or medled with the goods of any deceased, by colour of pzoouing the will, or obtaining administration elsewhere, hauing not also ~~not~~ taken administration from the Ordinary of the Dioces of Lincolne, for all the goods of the said deceased being within the said Diocese, and whose will hath been so pzooued, or administration granted, and by whom?

Articles concerning Ecclesiasticall Officers.

Inprimis, whether hath any Ecclesiasticall Judge, Register, Procurator, Apparitor, or other Minister belonging to any Ecclesiasticall Courts within this Countrey, extorted or taken (by colour of his or their Offices) any greater fees for probate of wills, and granting Letters of Administration, or otherwise then heretofore hath been accustomed to bee taken, or then are allowed by the lawes of this Realme?

2 Item, whether any of the said Officers belonging to such Ecclesiasticall Courts, doe take vpon them the office of Inforcers and Promoters? Can. 138.

3 Item, whether do you know or haue heard, that any person of your parish hath paid, or promised to pay any summe of money, or other reward directly or indirectly, by himselfe or others to any Officer of the said Ecclesiasticall Courts for the auoyding of punishment for Incest, adultery, fornication, or other crime punishable in the said courts, if so, declare to whom, when and what summes, &c.

4 Item, whether any Apparator, or other Messenger haue summoned any person to appeare in any Ecclesiasticall Court without a lawfull procelle, hauing the name of euery person so summoned to appeare expressely entred in the said Procelle subscribed and sealed by the Judge or his Deputy. Can. 120.

Articles concerning Church-wardens.

Inprimis, whether were you the Churchwardens and Side-men chosen by the consent of the Minister and Parishioners: and whether do you serue in your owne right, or as Deputies to others? Can. 90.

2 Item,

Articles concerning the Parishioners.

2 Item, whether haue the Churchwardens befoze you giuen by a iust and true account of their time, and deliuered vnto you whatsoeuer money, or other goods or stocke belonging to your Church, which was in their hands? Can. 89.

3 Item, whether haue you a terrar of the Gleabe lands belonging to your Church, ~~eyther such as concerneth the Ministers right, or such as hath been giuen to any Schoole, or other religious vses?~~

4 Item, whether any part of such Gleabe lands be encroached by any of the neighbours, and by them detayned from the Church, and right vses?

5 Item, whether your Parsonage, or Vicarage houses, or any part thereof be suffered to fall to decay, or be vled and conuerted to common Innes, Alehouses, or tipling houses?

6 Item, whether haue you suffered any strange Preacher to preach in your parish Church, or Chappel, but such as are licensed by lawfull authority, and whether haue you a booke to enter the names of such Preachers, according to the 52. Canon?

7 Articles concerning the Parishioners, and others of the Laitie.

Whether all fathers and mothers, and gouernours of youth within your Parish, cause their children, seruants, and appzentises, both mankinde and womankinde (aboue 7. yeres of age, and vnder twenty) which haue not learned the Catechisme, to come to the Church on Sundayes & Holydayes at the times appoynted, & there diligently and obediently heare, and be ordered by the Minister, till such time as they haue learned the same Catechisme: and what be the names of those that cause not their children, seruants and appzentises, so to come to Church to be instructed and examined?

2 Whether you your selues, or the Churchwardens in the yeres befoze you, haue suffered any vnnaryed woman, gotten with child, to go out of the parish befoze she hath done penance appoynted by the Ordinary, and out of whose houses they haue gone away with child unpunished: & how many vnnaryed women haue bin deliuered of child within your parish these 3. yeres last past hauing gone away without doing penance; and whether any married couples within your parish doe liue asunder?

Recciuing the Communion.
Whores depart unpunished.

Articles concerning the Parishioners,

Papists.

3 Whether there be any man or woman in your parish, that resorteth to any Popish priest for shrift, or auricular confession, or receiveth instructions from them for any the like cause?

Popish Bookes

4 Whether there bee any person or persons, Ecclesiasticall or temporall, within your parish, or elsewhere within this Archdeaconry, that haue retained, or kept in their custody, or that read, sell, utter, disperse, carry, or deliuer to others, any English Bookes, set forth of late yeres in any other place beyond the seas, by Papists, Iesuites, or Seminary Priests, either against the Kings Maiesties supremacy in matters Ecclesiasticall, or against the true Religion and Catholike doctrine, now receiued and established by common Authority within this Realme, and what their names, and surnames are?

Papists.

5 Whether there be any in your Parish that vseth to pray in English, or in Latine vpon Beades, or any such like thing, or vpon any superstitious Popish Primer, or other such like Booke?

Absent from Sermon.

6 Whether any of your parishioners, hauing a Preacher to their Parson, Vicar, or Curate, do absent themselves from his Sermons, and resort to any other place, to learne or follow after such innovations as are there taught? at *the same time*.

Resort to Church.

7 Whether the people of your parish, especially householders hauing no lawfull excuse to bee absent, doe faithfully and diligently endeuour themselves to resort with their children and seruants to their parish Church or Chappell on the Holidaves, and chiefly on the Sundayes, to Morning & Euening Prayer, at the beginning, and not depart untill the end thereof, without vrgent occasion?

12. d. for absent leuied.

8 Whether the forfeiture of twelue pence for euery such offence, appoynted by a statute made in the first yere of the late Quenes Maiesties reigne, bee leuyed and taken according to the same Statute, by the Church-wardens, of euery person that offendeth, and by them be put to the vse of the poore of the parish: if it be not, by whose default it is not leuied?

Baptized in other Parishes.

9 Whether any children that be bozne in your Parish, bee carried forth of the Parish to be baptized elsewhere, or with any Popish Ceremony, or otherwise then is appoynted by the Booke of Common Prayer, or whether any haue not beene

and others of the Laytie.

beene baptized at all, or in places unknowne?

10 Whether there be any Inne-keepers, Ale-wines, Victuallers or Tiplers, that suffer, or do admit any person or persons Sell in Seruice time. in their houses, to eate, drinke or play at Dice, Cards, Tables, Tennis, Bowles, or such like Games. in the time of Common prayer, or Sermon on Sundayes or holydayes: or any Butcher or other that commonly vse to sell meate, or other things in the time of Common prayer, preaching, or reading of Homilies: and whether in any Faieres, or common Markets, falling vpon the Sunday, there bee any shewing of wares before Morning prayer be done: and whether any Markets or selling of wares be vsed or suffered in any Church-yards, by common packmen, or Pedlers going about, to any such people either of your Parish, or not of the same Parish?

11 Whether the late Church-wardens and Swozne-men Concealed offences. haue concealed any crime or disorder in their time done in your parish, & haue not presented the same, and whether they or any of them, at any such time as they should haue ben at diuine seruice on Sundayes or holydayes, and should there haue obserued others that were absent, haue been away themselves, at home, or in some Tauerne, or Alehouse, or else about some worldly businesse, or at bowles, cardes, tables, dice, or other gaming, without regard of their office and duty in that behalfe?

12 Whether any of your Parish, being of conuenient age, hath not receiued the holy Communion thrice this last yeere at the least, and namely at Easter day last, or thereabout for once, and what their names are, or which receiuing, haue not signified the same before to your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, that hee might conueniently examine them, and who haue refused to come to him to bee examined: and here in you shall exhibite a scedule from your Minister, containing all the names of the offenders within your Parish?

13 Whether there be any in your Parish that administer the goods of those that bee dead without lawfull Authority, or any that suppress the last will of the dead, or any Executors that haue not fulfilled their Testators will, especially in paying Legacies giuen to the Church, or any other good and godly uses, as the reliefe of Orphanes, or poore Schollers, Waydens Willcs. marriages,

Articles concerning the Parishioners,

mariages, Highwayes, Schooles, and such like, and by whom they are so detained :

Married after
Popish orders.

14 Whether any couples that haue bin married within these two yeres last, haue bene knowen or suspected to haue bene married without the ring, or after the Popish order, or any other order then is appoynted by the Church of England, by reason that the one party or the other are noted to be such as refuse to come to the Church :

Swearers,
Bawdes, &c.

15 Whether there be among you any Blasphemers of the name of God, great or often swearers, adulterers, fornicators, incestuous persons, bawds, or receiuers of naughty and incontinent persons, or harbourers of women with child, which be bin married, conueying or suffering them to go away befoze they doe any penance, or make satisfaction to the congregation : or any that be vehemently suspected of any such faults, or that bee not of good name & fame touching any such crime & fault, any drunkenards or ribaunds, or any that bee malicious, contentious, or uncharitable persons, common slanderers of their neighbors, raylers, scolds, or sowers of discorde betwene neighbors, and specially raylers against Ministers, and against their mariages :

Marry within
degrees.

16 Whether there be any in these parts that haue married within the degrees of affinity, or consanguinity, by the lawes of God forbidden, set out in an admonition in a table appointed to be fixed in euery parish Church within this Archdeconry, whether you haue the said table so fixed in your Church, or any that being diuorced or separated from the same, doe yet notwithstanding cohabit and keepe company still together, or any that being married without those degrees, haue unlawfully forsaken their wiues or husbands, and that being diuorced & separated asunder, haue married againe, and that haue married and contracted themselues without the consent of their parents, tutors, or gouernors: any that haue married without bannes thise solemnely asked, and out of their owne parish Church.

Marry forni-
cators.

17 Item, whether your Parson, Vicar or Curate, haue willingly married together any couples, whereof the woman hath bene begot with child, or carnally knowen befoze marriage : or whether the man for money or reward hath married any woman that hath committed adultery with another man, without publike acknow-

and others of the Laytie.

acknowledgement of their offences, & reconciliation to the parish: what are the names of all such as have bin so married in any such case & when, & by whom they were so married together?

18 Item, whether there be any in your parish that doth and hath stood forty dayes excommunicate: whether any doth keepe company, eat or drink, buy, sell, or contract with any excommunicate person, and who they be that doe so? Excommunicants.

19 Item, whether any dying excommunicate, hath been buried in Christian buriall for this last yere past, and who they be that were so buried, who buried them, and who were present at their buriall? Dead excommunicants buried.

20 Whether your Register booke of Christnings, Weddings and Burials, be orderly and duly kept: and whether, according to the late Canon in that behalfe made, it bee put into Parchment, containing the names and surnames of all such as have bene christened, married, and buried? Register booke.

21 Whether doe the Minister & Churchwardens subscribe their names, or their seuerall marks to the end of euery page of the said Register booke: and whether is the said booke kept vnder thre locks, and thre keyes, as by the Canon it is required?

22 Whether all the Canons & Constitutions lately published be duly and respectiue observed on the part of the Clergy or Laity, as is in them required, and whether you haue the said Booke of Canons in your Church? All Canons observed.

23 Whether any of your parish do practise Physick or Chirurgery without license, and what be their names?

24 Whether any woman in your parish execute the office of a Midwife, without licence from the Ordinary?

25 Whether any in your parish doe vse Sorcery, or Witchcraft, and Charming, or such like bad practises, taking vpon them to cast out deuils, or any that resort vnto them for their helpe, and counsell?

26 Whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate haue two Benefices in this Diocese, or one in this Diocese, and another in another?

27 Whether you haue any Recusants in your Parish, and what they be?

FINIS.



